

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KARACH 01527 281138Z
ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SNM-05 DOTE-00
SY-05 TRSE-00 CTME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /051 W
-----011748 281144Z /21

O P 281040Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3180
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KARACHI 1527

BRUSSELS FOR FAA, PARIS FOR DEA, ROME FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, PK
SUBJECT: TECHNICAL CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY TEAM

REF: STATE 075583 (NOTAL)

1. APPRECIATE FAA'S QUICK RESPONSE TO OUR
REQUEST AND LOOK FORWARD TO VISIT OF TEAM. WE ARE,
HOWEVER, CONCERNED BY FAA'S DESIRE TO CONDUCT TRAINING
SEPARATE FROM GOP CUSTOMS AND PIA SECURITY FORCES WORKING
IN THE SAME AND RELATED FIELDS. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND
THE GENERAL REASONING BEHIND THIS DESIRE, IT IS OUR
OPINION THAT TO CONDUCT SEPARATE TRAINING WOULD BE
IGNORING REALITIES OF THE SITUATION AT KARACHI AIRPORT,
AND AT OTHER MAJOR AIRPORTS IN PAKISTAN.

2. SECURITY OF PAKISTANI AIRPORTS AND INCREASINGLY THE
TOTAL FUNCTIONING OF THESE AIRPORTS IS UNDER THE GUIDANCE
OF THE LOCAL COMMANDER OF THE AIRPORT SECURITY FORCES.
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IN ITS EXPANDED ROLE THE AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE IS
INCREASINGLY FACED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF
COORDINATING THE FUNCTIONING OF PIA SECURITY
AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, BOTH OF WHICH CONTRIBUTE
TO THE TOTAL AIRPORT SECURITY PICTURE.

3. CONCURRENTLY, IN THEIR EXPANDED ROLE THE

AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE HAS BEEN PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY ACTIVE ROLE IN ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS. AS THEY INCREASE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN SEARCHING PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE, THEY INEVITABLY TURN UP CONTRABAND ITEMS WHICH IN TURN BRINGS THEM INTO CONTACT WITH THE CUSTOMS PERSONNEL POSTED AT THE AIRPORT. THE COMMANDER OF THE AIRPORT SECURITY FORCE IS AWARE OF THIS SITUATION AND WANTS HIS SECURITY TRAINING PROGRAM TO PREPARE HIS PEOPLE TO DEAL WITH THIS AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS.

4. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT BOTH THE US GOVERNMENT AND THE US MISSION IN PAKISTAN WILL BENEFIT MORE FROM A COORDINATED PROGRAM WITH EMPHASIS ON OVERALL AIRPORT SECURITY THAN IT WILL FROM A SEPARATE TRAINING PROGRAM. WE ARE SURE THAT ONCE THE FAA TEAM IS ON THE GROUND IN KARACHI WE WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE IN COORDINATING OUR EFFORTS AND DESIGNING A PROGRAM WHICH WILL WORK TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF ALL INVOLVED PARTIES.

5. TEAM WILL BE MET UPON ARRIVAL IN KARACHI. WE PLAN TO HOUSE THEM AT THE AID STAFF HOUSE. DEFER TO ISLAMABAD RE-HOUSING DURING RAWALPINDI PHASE OF VISIT. WILL ADVISE SHORTLY REGARDING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE IN PAKISTAN AIRPORTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL SECURITY, CIVIL AVIATION, PERSONNEL TRAINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KARACH01527
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780134-0392
Format: TEL
From: KARACHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780319/aaaaapvd.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b54781bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION FAA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 75583
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3185273
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TECHNICAL CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY TEAM
TAGS: EAIR, PK, FAA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b54781bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014